



State Representative
Anthony J. D'Amelio

Dear Friend,

As the summer months approach, it continues to be an honor and privilege to serve as your State Representative for the 71st District in the House of Representatives.

This report briefly covers some of the topics debated and passed during the 2006 regular legislative session, and I hope you will find it informative.

As always, if you have any concerns, questions or comments regarding state issues please don't hesitate to call or write.

Very truly yours,

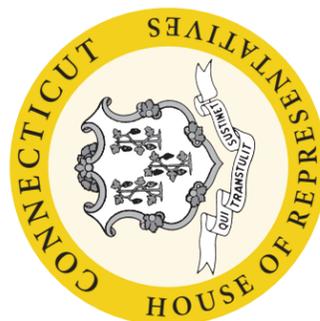


ATTENTION VETERANS

The new State of Connecticut Veterans Wartime Service Medal is now available. If you have wartime service in the armed forces, contact my office at 1-800-842-1423 to find out how to apply.



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State Representative
ANTHONY J. D'AMELIO
Proudly Serving the 71st District
Middlebury ★ Waterbury



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2006 LEGISLATIVE
REPORT



State Representative
ANTHONY J. D'AMELIO
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State Representative
Anthony D'Amelio

2006 Annual
Legislative Report



The State Budget

This year I continued my service on the budget-writing Appropriations Committee. The General Assembly approved a \$16 billion state budget that represented a compromise between legislative Democrats and Governor M. Jodi Rell and legislative Republicans.

The deal includes a phased-out repeal of the corporate surcharge, which many of my colleagues and I have fought for since the beginning of the legislative session. It also includes a number of tax cuts for business which will help improve the economy and increase jobs in the state, such as a phase out of the property tax on machinery and equipment.

We also increased deposits in the Rainy Day Fund from the Democrats' proposed \$39 million to \$190 million, which boosts the fund to \$800 million. The budget deal also fully funds the Teachers' Pension Fund. The final budget also is under the constitutionally mandated spending cap in both years.



For Seniors/Veterans/Healthcare

A new law allows towns to freeze property taxes on homes owned by people age 70 or older. Homeowner-companion agencies must now register with the Department of Consumer Protection and employees must undergo background checks. Legislation will protect jobs and finances of National Guard members who are called up for state service such as a natural disasters, just as they would if called up for national service. The legislature updated Connecticut law on end of life decisions, hospital-acquired infections and umbilical cord blood banking.

Grants for Waterbury

I was pleased to work with Governor Rell as she recently approved two critical grants for the City of Waterbury; \$150,000 for the Town Plot Park renovation, and \$300,000 for the Anderson Boys and Girls Club to rennovate the pool area.



Rep. D'Amelio visits at the Capitol with Middlebury members of the 2005 New England Pop Warner Pee Wee Football Champion Pomperaug Warriors.

School Construction

The General Assembly passed legislation that would provide local, regional, charter and vo-tech school funds for building and renovating schools throughout the state. The state investment totals over \$785 million, reducing the property tax burden on municipalities for school improvements.

The Cost of Energy

With a 22% increase on ratepayers having been implemented this year, and power consumers continuing to be gouged by rising costs, the legislative majority blocked a proposal by House Republicans that would reduce the public utilities gross earning tax on electric and power companies. I supported this proposal that would have reduced the residential rate from 6.8% to 4.0%, and the commercial rate from 8.5% to 5.0%. It would have also reduced the gross earnings tax by 41%, and saved ratepayers roughly \$60 million annually. It was defeated on a party-line vote.

There were also attempts to address the spiking cost of gasoline including a proposal to temporarily repeal the 25 cents a gallon state gasoline tax between Memorial Day and Labor Day. These proposals were also defeated by the majority despite a nearly \$700 million budget surplus.

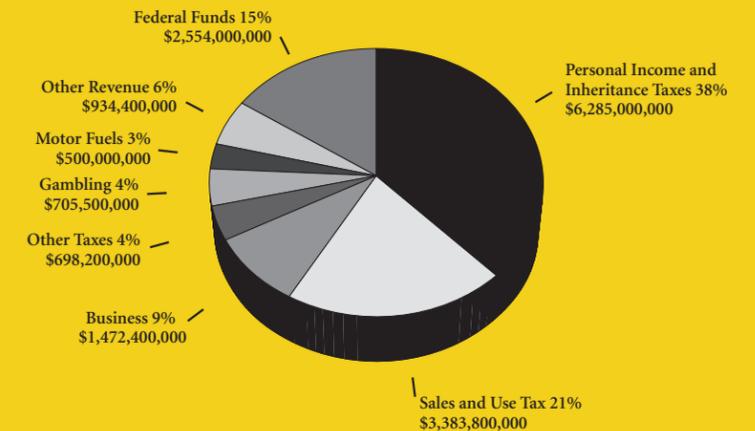
Transportation

The traffic congestion Connecticut has endured not only creates annoying commutes, but it kills jobs and the economy. This year the General Assembly committed \$2.3 billion to expand Metro North and other rail services and improve Connecticut's highways and roads. The plan includes the widening of I-84 between Danbury and Waterbury.

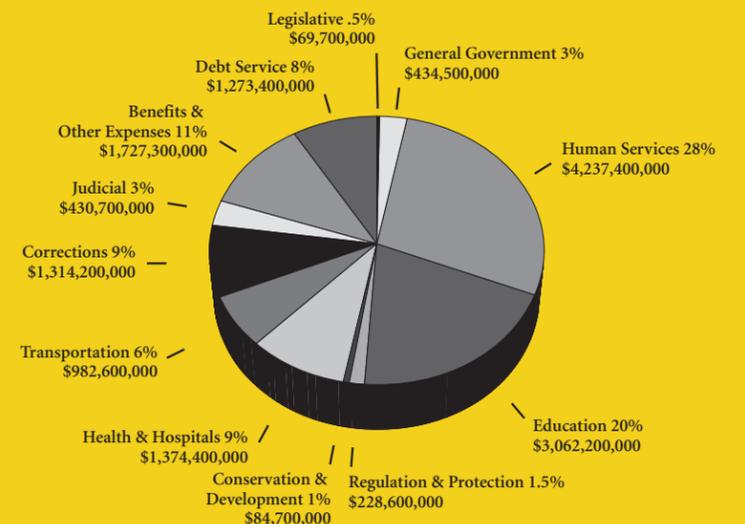
BUDGET ENDING JUNE 30, 2006

The 2006 general fund and the special transportation fund spends \$15.2 billion.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?



WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?



*In addition to an expected surplus, the difference between expenditures and revenues is due to tax refunds.